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PERSONAL

OUTSIDE SOURCE

Mr William J. Casey
Director
Central Intelligence Agency

Dear Mr. Director:

I am enclosing for your consideration a profile of Yuri Andropov, the late KGB chairman, which I hope you'd find interesting. It is a chapter from my forthcoming book about Soviet politics.

But the real reason for writing you is to ask for your advice and assistance on two issues. One is my new assignment: I suspect nobody could be pleased to learn that one's job is to cover the US intelligence community. Given the Post's standing in the intelligence community, my assignment appears to me at times as a form of punishment. Yet, I would like to approach this job responsibly and perform it to the best of my ability. The other matter is not related to my Post duties. I have been working on a book about the KGB (together with a British colleague, Louise Branson of the Sunday Times, who is still in Moscow.) The Andropov profile, I believe, would demonstrate that we do have good information (and hope to have some more). Yet, I believe, the bulk of information and assessments about the KGB will have to be collected in Washington and London.

I would very much hope that you would be able to see me at your convenience. Looking forward to hearing from you, with best regards,

[redacted] (b)(6)

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